

Serial No.: 10/672,057

Attorney Docket No.: 2003P0822003

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IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system, comprising:
a plurality of network clients including a positioning controller and a communications controller; and
a positioning server including a coordinating controller for maintaining a database of network clients to be tracked, said database further including position-presence correlation information related to party availability for individual users;
wherein said positioning server is adapted to receive position information from said plurality of network clients via a toll-free telephony interface and distribute presence information related to said position information formatted into one or more e-mail messages to one or more network enterprise devices;
wherein the plurality of network clients are configured to maintain a set of boundary perimeter rules and communicate a change via said toll-free telephony interface when a corresponding one of the plurality of network clients crosses the boundary perimeter;
wherein a watchdog timer is maintained for confirmation the plurality of network clients are available;
wherein the system checks for a new presence rule responsive to detection that one of the plurality of network clients is not available; and
wherein a hysteresis timer is maintained upon detection of loss of a positioning signal or a boundary perimeter crossing to prevent toggling of a presence update.
2. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said positioning controller receives global positioning network signals for determining a position of an associated network client.

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3. (Original) A telecommunications system in accordance with claim 2, wherein said communications controller comprises a cellular network controller for transmitting on a cellular telephone network to said positioning server.

4. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system, comprising:
a plurality of network clients including a positioning controller and a communications controller; and

a positioning server including a coordinating controller for maintaining a database of network clients to be tracked, said database further including position-presence correlation information for individual users;

wherein said positioning server is adapted to receive position information from said plurality of network clients via a toll-free telephone interface and distribute presence information related to said position information as one or more text messages to one or more network enterprise devices;

wherein said positioning controller receives global positioning network signals for determining a position of an associated network client

wherein said communications controller comprises a cellular network controller for transmitting said location information on a cellular telephone network to said positioning server;

wherein said plurality of network clients are adapted to receive updates to said position-presence correlation information as e-mails from said positioning server;

wherein the plurality of network clients are configured to maintain a set of boundary perimeter rules and communicate a change via said toll-free telephony interface when a corresponding one of the plurality of network clients crosses the boundary perimeter;

wherein a watchdog timer is maintained for confirmation the plurality of network clients are available;

wherein the system checks for a new presence rule responsive to detection that one of the plurality of network clients is not available; and

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wherein a hysteresis timer is maintained upon detection of loss of a positioning signal or a boundary perimeter crossing to prevent toggling of a presence update.

5. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications server, comprising:
a presence control unit adapted to receive and maintain presence information for a plurality of users;

a location control unit adapted to receive and maintain location information for said plurality of users via a toll-free telephone interface, said location information correlated with said presence information; and

an e-mail generation unit adapted to generate presence status e-mail and location-presence correlation information from said location information for network users;

wherein the location control unit is configured receive a an update from one of the plurality of users crosses a boundary perimeter;

wherein a watchdog timer is maintained for confirmation the plurality of users are available;

wherein the system checks for a new presence rule responsive to detection that one of the plurality users is not available; and

wherein a hysteresis timer is maintained upon detection of loss of a positioning signal or a boundary perimeter crossing to prevent toggling of a presence update.

6. (Original) A telecommunications server in accordance with claim 5, wherein said location control unit receives said location information via an enterprise specific dial-up.

7. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications method, comprising:
receiving one or more user positioning and presence correlation rules at a local controller via a toll-free telephone interface; and
transmitting said one or more positioning and presence correlation rules to a remote device as one or more rules e-mails;

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transmitting a positioning update from a remote device when the remote device crosses a boundary perimeter;

maintaining a watchdog timer for confirmation of availability; and

maintaining a hysteresis timer upon detection of loss of a positioning signal or a boundary perimeter crossing to prevent toggling of a presence update.

8. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 7, further comprising:

receiving positioning updates at said remote device; and

transmitting presence updates as one or more presence e-mails to other local controllers or remote devices as specified in said one or more positioning and presence correlation rules and responsive to receiving the positioning updates.

9. (Original) A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 8, wherein said receiving one or more user positioning and presence correlation rules comprises receiving at a server one or more rules set via a network interface device operably coupled to said local controller.

10. (Original) A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 9, wherein said receiving positioning updates comprises receiving one or more signals from a global positioning network.

11. (Original) A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 10, further comprising transmitting positioning updates from said remote device to one or more servers via a radio-linked network.

12. (Original) A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 11, wherein said radio-linked network comprises a cellular telephone network.

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13. (Original) A telecommunications method in accordance with claim 11, wherein said radio-linked network comprises a personal communication service (PCS) network.

14. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications device, comprising:
a positioning controller adapted to determine positioning information for said telecommunications device;
a communications controller adapted to receive said positioning information from said positioning controller and cause said positioning information to be transmitted to an associated server via toll-free telephone interface; and
an e-mail controller adapted to receive positioning information control updates from said associated server;
wherein the telecommunications device is configured to maintain a set of boundary perimeter rules and communicate a change via said toll-free telephony interface when it crosses the boundary perimeter;
wherein a watchdog timer is maintained for confirmation of availability;
wherein a hysteresis timer is maintained upon detection of loss of a positioning signal or a boundary perimeter crossing to prevent toggling of a presence update.

15. (Original) A telecommunications device as recited in claim 14, wherein said positioning controller receives Global Positioning System (GPS) signals to determine said positioning information.

16. (Original) A telecommunications device as recited in claim 15, further including a rules database of location and presence related information.

17. (Original) A telecommunications device as recited in claim 16, wherein said communications controller transmits changes to location and presence status to said associated server via a wireless dial-up connection.

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18. (Original) A telecommunications device as recited in claim 16, wherein said communications controller transmits changes to location status to said associated server via a wireless dial-up connection.

19. (Original) A telecommunications device as recited in claim 16, wherein said communications controller receives updates to said rules database as e-mails from said associated server.